

REMARKS

Claims 11-20 remain in this application. Claims 1-10 have been canceled. Claim 11-20 have been added.

There is submitted herewith a clean version of the substitute specification, as well as a copy with markings showing all the changes relative to the originally filed version, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.125(c). As was pointed out above, the undersigned registered U.S. Patent attorney states pursuant to 37 1.125(b), that the substitute specification includes no new matter.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Benoit Castel

Benoit Castel, Reg. No. 35,041
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

BC/tlw

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item(s):

- a Substitute Specification
- a marked-up copy of the originally-filed specification

VERTICAL STRUCTURE CONTAINING A MOVABLE FRAME AND HAVING THE FUNCTIONS OF A SEAT AND/OR A PARTITION SCREEN

5

DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Space divider screens are known to be currently made from various materials and with various processes.

10 Depending on specific requirements, there is a tendency for manufacturers to customize space divider screens for public places, corporations or exhibitions; this helps to enhance and optimize spaces, and reduce costs associated thereto, and to customize a desired 15 advertising image by using divider screens.

In this connection, it shall be highlighted that many corporations have a preference for those novel arrangements which aim at optimizing space to the slightest detail.

20 In order to better enhance one of the main features of this invention, one of the commonest public places will be considered herein, in which space division is of the utmost importance, for a variety of reasons: an airport.

25 In airports, the spaces available for transiting passengers are organized in every detail.

This is important both to control normal passenger flow and to allow them to have a nice stay while they wait in the airport.

30 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention, that will be described in greater detail hereafter, has the aim of optimizing all

available spaces in which multiple functions are to be provided.

For example, a space divider screen may form both a waiting room and possibly an advertising medium, 5 thanks to the panel contained in the inventive structure.

The structure as claimed in the Patent DE 4233398 and DE 295501720 are known. This structure ascribe to folding seat in which in folding position the seat and 10 the back are not coplanar and in a precise manner the seat folding on the back.

The structure described in the cited prior arts cannot be utilized as divider screens with images, since the seat folds on its back.

15 In the scope of the above mentioned purpose, the invention provides a light and sturdy vertical structure, having a panel therein, which can be used as a comfortable seat or as an advertising medium, when needed.

20 A further feature of the invention is that, by adjoining multiple inventive structures, a space divider screen may be obtained, e.g. forming a waiting room, and the advertising space is increased, as if it were distributed in a single large wall.

25

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Further characteristics and advantages will be more apparent from the description of a preferred, non limiting embodiment of the invention, which is 30 described by way of example and without limitation with the help of the annexed drawings, in which:

- Figure 1 is a schematic perspective view of the inventive assembly.

- Figure 2 is an exemplifying view of a tall man standing next to the inventive structure, to better show its space dividing function.

5 - Fig. 3 is a schematic view of the inventive structure in its seat position.

- Fig. 4 is a schematic view of multiple structures according to the invention, which are placed in a side-by-side relationship to form a space divider and/or partition screen.

10

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring to the above figures, the present structure is generally shown in Fig. 1, which comprises an essentially vertical structure 1 having a frame, 15 preferably made of metal, with an additional frame 2 mounted therein to receive a panel 3 made of a fabric, a synthetic material or else.

The vertical structure 1 is essentially made of upright poles or supports.

20 In Figure 2, the size of a man 4 gives an idea of the height of the inventive structure, one of whose features is that of a space divider and/or partition screen, as better shown in Figure 4.

In Figure 3, the inventive structure is shown in 25 its seat position.

This additional feature is simply obtained by manually pushing the cross member 2c, which is pivotally mounted to the inner frame through about 90° in the direction of arrow 6.

30 This simple operation, which turns the inventive structure into a comfortable seat, is achievable by providing that the frame received in the inventive structure is generally composed of lower rods 2b which

are pivotally mounted by the shanks 9 of the screws 10 in the holes 5 and 8, the whole being joined by the stationary rod 15 which forms the bearing structure of the invention.

5 The motion of the upper portion of the inner frame of the inventive structure is simultaneously provided by the rods 2a, which are respectively connected beneath the rods 2, and above the rods 2b, the latter being in turn pivotally mounted to the shanks 11 of the
10 screws 12 in the holes 13 and 14, the whole being joined by the rod 2c, which is itself pivotally mounted to the frame.

The end of the stroke, i.e. the seat position, is obtained when the end stop 7 abuts against the
15 structure 1.

Still referring to Figure 3, it is apparent that the inventive structure may be simply brought back to the vertical position by an inverse motion, still through 90°, in the direction of arrow 16.

20 Cross members 17 and 18 are provided to complete the structure of the invention, which are mounted to the vertical rods that support the structure.

Back to Figure 1, a plate 19 may be provided alternatively to crossbars 17, e.g. when that the whole
25 inventive structure needs to be secured to the floor.

As well visible in Figure 3, the seat moves through an angle of 90 degrees and reaches a vertical position and, at the same time, the panel 3 makes a rototraslation through an angle of 90 degrees, in the
30 direction of arrow 16, to move to a coplanar position with the seat, as shown in Figure 1.

Finally, the inventive structure is intended to be made of commonly available materials, which are

susceptible of a number of variants, without altering the purpose thereof, e.g.: the return of the seat to its vertical position might be caused by a number of appropriately disposed return springs 20, or by 5 hydraulic pistons or balance weights hidden in the vertical supports, or as extensions of the rods 2d of the frame 2.

Another example might be, for instance, the provision of a wholly disassembled kit of the inventive 10 structure.

Also, all the details may be replaced by technically equivalent elements, and the materials may be actually different depending on different needs, provided their compatibility with specific usages.